

Message Text

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12

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1573

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 8228

FOR: AF/E AND SCS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC

SUBJ: TRAVEL ADVICE TO CITIZENS INQUIRING ABOUT UGANDA

THE POST HAS EXPERIENCED AN INCREASE IN INQUIRIES FROM AMERICANS, BOTH LOCALLY AND IN THE UNITED STATES, REGARDING ADVISABILITY OF TRAVEL TO UGANDA. THE POST IS RELUCTANT TO PUT BLUNT DISCOURAGEMENT INTO WRITING, FOR FEAR THAT IF SUCH FRANKNESS FELL INTO THE HANDS OF UGANDAN SECURITY AGENTS, IT MIGHT INSPIRE RETALIATORY MEASURES AGAINST AMERICANS STILL IN UGANDA. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE POST WISHES ALL AMERICAN TRAVELLERS, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE MAKING DIRECT INQUIRIES, TO BE FULLY AWARE OF OUR STRONG BELIEF THAT TRAVEL TO UGANDA, ORDINARILY TO BE DISCOURAGED, IS DEEMED ESPECIALLY INADVISABLE AT PRESENT. POST HAS CONSIDERED REQUESTING AMERICANS IN KENYA WHO WRITE FOR ADVICE TO COME TO THE EMBASSY FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION, AND REFERRING WRITERS IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR ADVICE. POST WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE, ESPECIALLY ON MATTER OF WORDING TO BE USED IN WRITTEN RESPONSES.

MARSHALL

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